

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT
Virginia Resource Advisory Committee

Orientation Meeting Notes
September 22, 2021; 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

FACA overview

1. Question about getting people to assist as a project consultant.

Secure Rural Schools Act Overview – Questions:

1. How is county allocation set? Does the RAC have any input on that?
2. Are there any existing projects that have funds already allocated for these projects? Want current funds. Funds for 2019/2020 have not been allocated. The RAC will recommend projects for these funds.
3. What is the interplay between county funds and the RAC. This RAC will focus on Title II funds. Counties have elected to put funds that can be used on federal lands to be placed in Title II.
4. Are we only looking at Title II funds? Yes. Are there other counties that will be funding or only these counties? Counties can help each other out, but just the 4 counties listed.
5. Dates for obligating projects? 9/30/2023
6. Was money allocated for specific projects? SRS Act was developed to contribute back to the counties where they may have been more economic returns to counties. Projects requirements are outlined in SRS Title II information
7. Who identifies the projects. They are recommended by this RAC. They are approved by the Forest Supervisor.
8. Funds have been paid through 2020. We do not have any other funding until there is new legislation. 2019/2020 funds have been allocated and should be spent before 2024
9. How is USDI management of the RAC different from USDA?

RAC Overview

Roles and Responsibilities

Overview past projects – District Ranger presentations

Chairperson Election: Tom Richardson was elected as Chairperson, Ed Stoot volunteered to be the co-chair.

Operating Guidelines:

Question: How are areas of RAC organization determined? There are 3 categories. A is developed recreation, mineral, timber operations etc. B is environmental organizations, dispersed recreation, heritage, wildlife/watershed, C is state and county, tribes, school officials and members at large.

Operating Guidelines accepted as written with a simple majority vote.

Location and Timing of the Next Meeting:

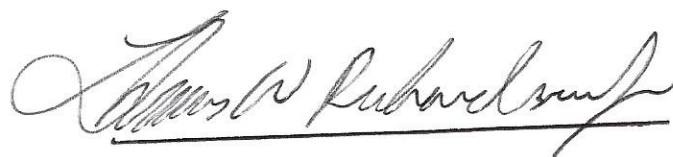
How and When to Solicit Proposals: There was a request to send out proposal application and project guidance information.

Can the RAC board have ways to get big projects done? RAC \$ can assist with project prep so that the project is ready when other funds might become available.

- Support given for standard meeting dates, planning in advance with the flexibility to add more calls as needed.
- Proposed a doodle poll to allow people to schedule the standing dates for next year.
- One suggestion to meet every 6 mos. Meeting in March and then again in Sept. 2022.
- Options: Feb/Aug
- How much time do counties need to develop proposals.
- We can ask for proposals by Dec. 31 and then review after the first of the year.
- Meeting quarterly
- Request for .ppt slide or at a minimum the 2019/2020 funding slide.
- Comments back in 3 weeks on proposal forms
- Comments to give as much time as we can to the proposal generation 2 weeks comment period.

BIN ITEMS:

1. How are county % allocations set? Does the RAC have any input on that? (Title I)



RAC chairperson

RAC Designated
Federal officer